(d) whether it is a fact that an International Seminar on role of local Government in Development was held in Delhi in the month of October, 1986; and

(e) if so, what suggestions/recommendations were made at the seminar and what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 'Pull' of the urban areas on account of employment opportunities and availability of basic services and 'Push' of the rural areas where agricultural lands are over-saturated leads to rural-urban migration. This is essentially a socio-economic phenomenon.

(c) In order to ensure a balanced distribution of urban population and to slow down the growth of metropolises a Centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns was introduced in the year 1979. Up to the end of Sixth Five-Year Plan 235 towns were covered under the Scheme. This scheme is being continued in the Seventh Five-year Plan to cover 102 additional towns.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The suggestions/recommendations are still awaited.

Loss of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation

3417. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of loss incurred by the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation of India through all its units during 1983—85; and

(b) what is the total number of employees likely to be thrown out of employment in the event of the closure of the factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Year-wise total loss incurred by the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) was as follows:

Year	*Total Loss (Rs./Crores)*
1983-84	72.41
1984-85	72.23

(b) As no decision has been taken to close the units of HFC, the question of total number of employees likely to be rendered surplus does not arise at this stage.

Closing of flood forcasting Station

3418. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have closed down some of Flood Forecasting Station on delta region of River Mahanadi (i) Babbaja (ii) Marshaghai (iii) Danpur (iv) Tarpur (v) Cuttack by violating the decision of Flood expert committee;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the number of Flood Forecasts issued in advance by Central Flood Forecasting Stations (i) Marshaghai (ii) Babbaja (iii) Danpur (iv) Tarpur (v) Cuttack (vi) Chandanpur and (vii) Kanas for the safety of the lower Reaches of the people during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) As no Flood Forecasting Stations were established at the places mentioned, the question of their closing down does not arise.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.